



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2015

COMMENCING AT 7.10PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cr Paul Maytom (Mayor), Cr George Weston (Deputy Mayor), Cr Peter Davidson, Cr Tracey Morris, Cr Emerson Doig, Cr Steve Dowling, Cr Greg O'Callaghan and Cr Michael Kidd

Staff: Garry Stoll (Acting General Manager), Duncan McWhirter (Director Corporate Services), Barry Heins (Director Engineering and Technical Services), Peter McFarlane (Financial Services Manager) and Val Harrison (Executive Support Officer)

Press: Talia Pattison (The Irrigator)

CIVIC PRAYER Cr Steve Dowling

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY Cr Paul Maytom

Note: Council observed a minute silence as a mark of respect for the late Stephanie Scott.

APOLOGIES

15/080

Resolved

That the apology submitted on behalf of Cr Tracey Valenzisi be accepted and that leave of absence from the meeting be granted.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Davidson)

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

15/081

Resolved

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, March 25 2015, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

THAT the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday, April 16 2015, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED, subject to the appointment dates for Mr Tony Hayward as Acting General Manager be amended to the following:

- Monday 11 May 2015 until Wednesday 8 July 2015.

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Dowling)

GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS

**Item 1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORMS
Fit For the Future – Stand Alone Submission**

15/082

Resolved

THAT Council engage Morrison Low to prepare a report on the potential for Leeton Shire Council to “stand alone” as a Council in accordance with Fit for the Future Guidelines (funded via \$25,000 to be allocated in March Quarterly Budget Review from Working Funds).

(Moved Cr Morris, seconded Cr Doig)

CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS

**Item 1 HUMAN RESOURCES
Employment Update**

15/083

Resolved

That the report on Human Resources – Employment Update be noted.

(Moved Cr Dowling, seconded Cr Weston)

**Item 2 INVESTMENTS - DIVIDENDS
Investments - March 2015**

15/084

Resolved

That the information contained in the report on Investments be noted.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Morris)

**Item 3 LEETON GOLF COURSE
March 2015 Update**

15/085

Resolved

That Council note the March 2015 report on the activities of Leeton Golf Course.

(Moved Cr Davidson, seconded Cr Kidd)

**Item 4 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND PLANNING
2015/16 Operational Plan, 2015/16 - 2018/19 Delivery Program
and Resourcing Strategy**

15/086

Resolved

- (a) Council endorse the draft Delivery Program (2015/16 – 2018/19), draft Resourcing Strategy (comprising of the Long Term Financial Plan 2015/16 – 2024/25, Asset Management Plan (2015/16 - 2024/25) and Workforce Management Plan 2015/16 - 2018/19) and draft Operational Plan 2015/16.

- (b) Council place the draft Delivery Program, draft Resourcing Strategy and draft Operational Plan on public display for 28 days.
- (c) The final Delivery Program, Resourcing Strategy and Operational Plan including the Making of the Rates (2015/16) be presented to Council for adoption at a Council meeting prior to 30 June 2015.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Morris)

ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MATTERS

Item 1 MATTERS/BUSINESS PAPER

15/087

Resolved

That the information regarding matters arising from former meetings contained within the report be received and noted.

(Moved Cr Doig, seconded Cr Kidd)

Item 2 ROADS - MAINTENANCE

Minor and Routine Maintenance

Petersham Road Precinct Progress Report

15/088

Resolved

That Council note the information contained in the progress report on Petersham Road Precinct Project works.

(Moved Cr Kidd, seconded Cr Davidson)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MATTERS

Item 1 MATTERS/BUSINESS PAPER

15/089

Resolved

That the information regarding matters arising from former meetings contained within the report be received and noted.

(Moved Cr Doig, seconded Cr Kidd)

**Item 2 WASTE CHARGES LEETON LANDFILL & RECYCLING DEPOT
15/090**

Resolved

That Council endorse the following amendments/additions to the 2015/2016 waste charges:

- Mixed Rural Farm Waste (Limited to one car trailer load) \$60/load.
- Mixed Rural Farm Waste (Over one ute/car trailer load) \$80/tonne.
- Domestic Waste up to one car load/ute/car trailer load – free.
- Domestic waste (Over one carload/ car trailer load) to be considered as Commercial Mixed Waste and charged accordingly.
- And for these charges be incorporated within the draft 2015/2016 fees and charges identified in Item 4 (Corporate Services Matters) of this business paper.

(Moved Cr Weston, seconded Cr Doig)

STATEMENTS BY COUNCILLORS

1 Cr Tracey Morris

Requested an update on whether Council had made contact with the Leeton Chamber of Commerce to discuss the empty shop fronts in the main street.

2 Cr Emerson Doig

- Requested that plans for the future expansion of the Leeton Cemetery be provided to Council.
- Raised the matter of the life expectancy of the Whitton Pool and requested that further information on this be provided.

3 Cr George Weston

- At a recent Leeton Heritage meeting it was resolved that a letter be forwarded to the appropriate government department requesting that Henry Lawson Cottage be given State Heritage listing. Cr Weston asked as to what process should be followed for this to happen. Director Corporate Services advised that State heritage listing of properties had been discussed at a recent meeting at Whitton. It has been suggested that the Whitton Courthouse and Whitton Police Station be placed on the State Heritage listing. Council staff are to

prepare a report for Council on the potential to list Henry Lawson Cottage, Whitton Courthouse and Whitton Police Station on the State Heritage list.

- Raised the matter of Council archiving historical material. He suggested that a small committee, consisting of 1 or 2 councillors and staff, be formed to investigate possibilities for archive storage.
- Commented that he has been questioned on a number of occasions by residents regarding the possibility of a new business coming to Leeton. Acting General Manager noted that there are always rumours of new businesses coming to Leeton, however he cannot confirm these rumours.
- Inquired as to the decision regarding the provision of free Wi-Fi in the main town area and he was advised that this item was not included in the 2015/2016 budget.

4 Cr Greg O'Callaghan

Along with Cr George Weston and Acting General Manager, he recently met with a number of Whitton residents at the Whitton Sports and Recreation Ground. The group is a very enthusiastic and young Committee who are willing to do a lot of volunteer work at the Ground, however they would also require some support from Council.

5 Cr Michael Kidd

Had heard that there had been a vandalism attack on the building site at No 1 Oval and raised the matter of CCTV once the building is completed. Acting General Manager advised that he hadn't heard of any vandalism, however Council would investigate security options. It was also noted that the Riverina Soccer team that is based in Griffith uses the Ovals facility for training and they are very impressed with the state of the Ovals.

6 Director Corporate Services – Duncan McWhirter

Thanked Financial Services Manager, Peter McFarlane for standing in as Acting Director Corporate Services whilst he was on extended leave.

7 Cr Paul Maytom

- Attended a RAMROC/MDBA Engagement Working Group meeting in Griffith on Tuesday 21 April 2015. The meeting was attended by Chief Executive, Rhonda Dickson and newly appointed MDBA Chairman, Neil Andrew.

- On Sunday 26 April 2015 he will be attending the Leeton Family & Local History Society Cemetery Walk and Commemoration of the Headstone of Herbert Franstone who was Australia's first Director of Naval Works for the Commonwealth Government.
- Noted that the Australia Energy Regulator review of the NSW and Tasmanian electricity distribution and transmission proposals for 2014-19 has been completed and a draft ruling suggests that there may only be an increase of 5% on street lighting charges that are provided to Council by Essential Energy.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.36pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
27/05/2015 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.